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JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 19, 2011

The Honorable John Thune United States Senate 493 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thune:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's 2010 Quadrennial Review of its broadcast ownership rules and policies. Specifically, you urge the Commission to revise its local radio ownership rules to eliminate the subcaps on common ownership of AM and FM radio stations in the same market.

I appreciate your thoughts on this topic. The Commission is examining this issue as part of the Quadrennial Review and requested comment on the distinction between AM and FM stations in the rules establishing numerical limits on radio ownership in its May 2010 *Notice of Inquiry*. The Commission also contracted for several studies to evaluate economic and technological developments in the media marketplace since its last ownership review. The studies were completed recently and are available on the Commission's website, along with accompanying peer reviews.

I intend to circulate a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to my colleagues on the Commission in the near future. Your letter will be made a part of the record in the proceeding and the Commission will give careful consideration to your views.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski